



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## **Economic Development Committee**

### **Minutes**

**Monday, April 28, 2015,**

**9:30 a.m.**

**DuPage County Conference Room**

**233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800**

**Chicago, Illinois**

**Committee members present:** Christine Sobek (chair, Waubensee Community College), Greg Bedalov (Choose DuPage), Peter Creticos (Institute for Work and the Economy), Joanna Greene (Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership), John Grueling (Will County Center for Economic Development), Emily Harris (Harris Strategies), Jason Keller (Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago), Gretchen Kosarko (RW Ventures), Judith Kossy (Policy Planning Partners), Kelly O'Brian (Alliance for Regional Development), Kurtis Pozsgay (Berwyn Development Corporation), Lance Pressl (Institute for Work and the Economy), Ed Sitar (ComEd), Gary Skoog (Golden Corridor), Jerry Weber (College of Lake County)  
**By Phone:** Kevin Kramer (Village of Hoffman Estates), Jeff Margolis (Illinois Science and Technology Coalition), Carrie Thomas (Chicago Jobs Council)

**Others present:** Dean Ahamus (The Water Council), Janell Jenson (McHenry Council of Mayors), James Wilson (Cook County)

**Staff present:** Nora Beck, Bob Dean, Kristin Ihnchak, Tom Kotarac, Brian Peterson, Joe Szabo, Simone Weil

#### **1.0 Call to Order/Introductions**

Committee chair Christine Sobek called the meeting to order at 9:32am.

#### **2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

No agenda changes were made.

Simone Weil announced a new committee member from the Illinois Science and Technology Coalition, Jeff Margolis, replacing Mark Harris.

### **3.0 Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2015 meeting was made by Lance Pressl, the motion was seconded by Ed Sitar, and with all in favor, the motion carried.

### **4.0 The Water Council**

Dean Amhaus, President and CEO of The Water Council in Milwaukee discussed the organization's genesis, partnerships, and plans for the future. The Water Council is a national sustainability leader for managing stormwater with green infrastructure, extracting renewable energy from waste products, and mitigating and adapting to climate change. The organization grew out of leadership from the private sector and academia and with the support of state and local economic developers has been able to build a multi-use space where researchers and businesses can collaborate across disciplines and industries. Because of the small size of the overall water cluster, and because there is no North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code designation, the cluster was developed by analyzing businesses individually. The Water Council's partners range from industry to academia to government: more than 150 water technology companies, the first School of Freshwater Sciences in the nation, the Institute for Water Business program, over 100 academic scientists and researchers focused on water solutions. Committee members asked questions about technologies under development, the Council's expansion plans, and perspectives on influencing public policy.

### **5.0 Local Technical Assistance Local Match Requirement**

Bob Dean discussed implementation of a programmatic change meant to increase local commitment. In the upcoming May 2015 call for projects, CMAP will begin to assess a local match. Committee members discussed how CMAP will disseminate the information, potential impacts on applications, and alternate measures to determine the required match level.

### **6.0 Regional Economic Indicators site update**

Brian Peterson provided an update on the Regional Economic Indicators microsite. Since its launch in July 2014, three indicator themes data have been updated and several in-depth analyses completed via the policy blog. Committee members discussed findings and potential strategies to share the analysis to inform a broader audience. Staff mentioned recent publication of the indicators in the Daily Herald's 2015 Book of Lists.

### **7.0 Other Business**

Committee members briefly discussed the site visit to LB Steel in Harvey.

### **8.0 Public Comment**

No public comment was provided.

**9.0 Next meeting**

The Economic Development Committee is scheduled to meet next on Monday, June 22, 2015 at 9:30am.

**10.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Simone Weil